



CREDENTIALS ► COLLEGE ► CAREER

A Proud Partner of the American Job Center Network

PROFILE

Kentucky Adult Education Skills U, a unit of the Kentucky Council on Postsecondary Education, provides **free adult education services** in **each of Kentucky's 120 counties**.

The **vision** of Kentucky Adult Education (KYAE) Skills U is that **Kentuckians will experience a higher standard of living and quality of life through increased educational attainment**.

KYAE Skills U is committed to providing academic and essential skills instruction to help ensure that Kentucky adults get the education they need for long-term jobs in high-demand fields that provide sustainable wages.

OUR FEDERAL MANDATE: The Adult Education and Family Literacy Act (AEFLA) of the Workforce Innovation Opportunity Act states, "The (AEFLA) program seeks to increase opportunity in the educational and workforce development of adults as workers, parents, and citizens. While playing a critical role in adult attainment of a secondary school diploma, the program also aims to assist in the transition to postsecondary education and training through the use of career pathways."

Employers need a skilled workforce

62%

In 1973, 72% of the workforce had no more than a high school diploma.

By 2020, 62% of all jobs in Kentucky will require some level of postsecondary education.

A skills gap survey of advanced manufacturing executives reported the percentage of those who indicated **current employees are not sufficient in the following key skills:**



70%

technology/computer skills



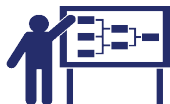
60%

math skills



69%

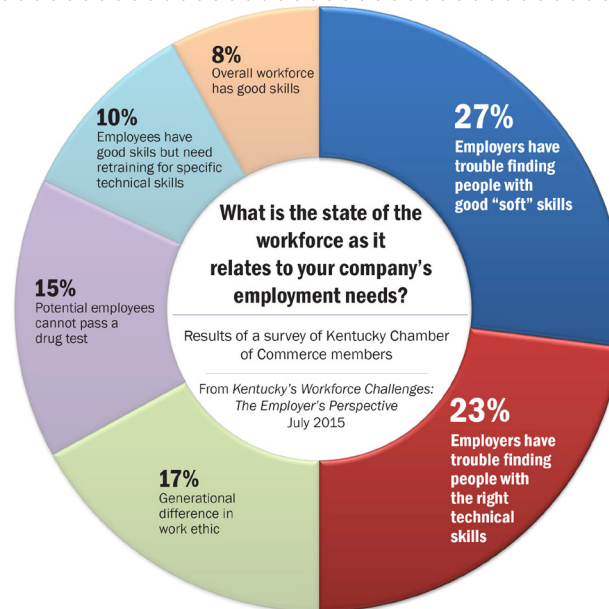
problem-solving skills



67%

basic technical training

Kentuckians need upskilling



A Kentucky Chamber of Commerce survey indicates that the two largest challenges related to finding good employees are skills-related. **Less than 10 percent of those surveyed believe the overall workforce has good skills.**

347,000

Despite significant progress, there are still 347,000 Kentuckians ages 18-64 without high school/GED® diplomas.

Skills U services help close the gap

KYAE Skills U programs provide free academic instruction aligned to college-and-career readiness standards, as well as preparation and coaching for next steps (i.e., college and career) for individuals:

- **Without a high school diploma;**
- **With a high school diploma but with emergent needs;**
- **Requiring English language acquisition (ELA) instruction (literacy and civics);**
- **Participating in integrated education and training; and**
- **In corrections facilities.**

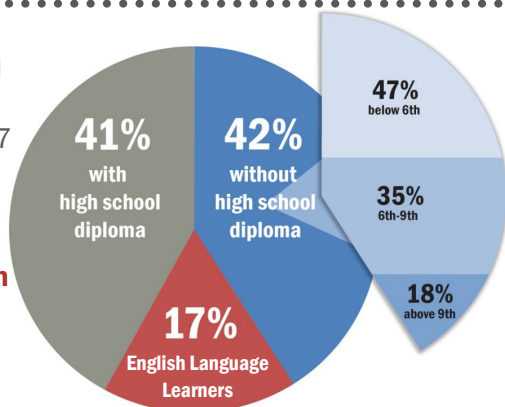
Our services are designed to assist individuals in becoming college and career ready, via stackable credentials, for one or more of the following:

- **The GED® high school equivalency test;**
- **Postsecondary education and training;**
- **The Kentucky Essential Skills Certificate, (addressing soft skills);**
- **Career readiness certificates; and/or**
- **Workforce preparation and employment.**



Our target populations face many challenges

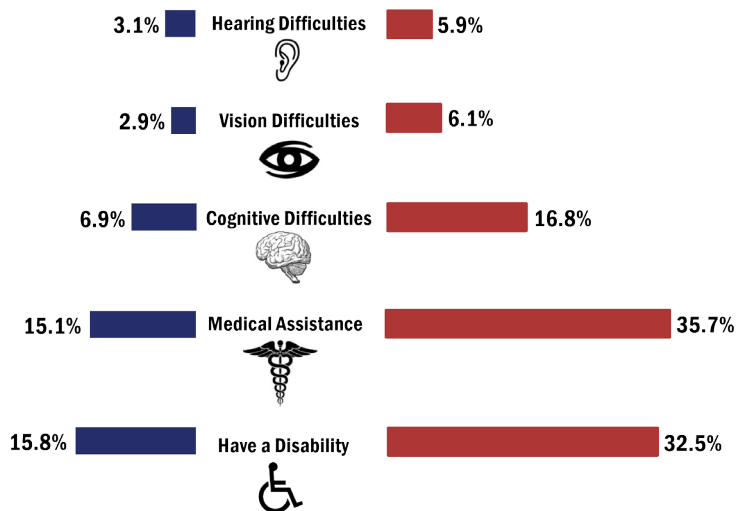
During the 2016-17 fiscal year, KYAE Skills U programs enrolled 22,507 students. Of the 42% of those students who did not have a high school or GED® diploma, **more than 80% enrolled at below a ninth grade level.**



Incidence of challenges among working-age adults

With HS diploma

Without HS diploma



Low-skilled adults are:



“(Low foundational skills are) a fundamental barrier to every major challenge facing Kentucky, including early childhood education, education reform, economic development, and improving the health and well-being of Kentucky’s families and communities.” – The Kentucky Adult Education Act of 2000

Kentucky Adult Education Skills U • www.kyae.ky.gov

1024 Capital Center Drive, Suite 250 • Frankfort, KY 40601 • www.facebook.com/KYAdultEducation

DATA SOURCES: Bureau Labor Statistics, U.S. Census, American Community Survey, GED Testing Service®, KAERS, Kentucky Chamber of Commerce, Deloitte/The Manufacturing Institute, PUMS, Georgetown University Center on Education and the Workforce

Skills U celebrates state progress, continues to strive

85%

Kentucky’s GED® pass rate for 2016-17 was 85%* – **among the TOP 10 in the nation!**

**Among those states that report GED® data; Kentucky’s GED® pass rate exceeds the national pass rate of 79%.*

“Kentucky has much more experience than most states in strengthening adult access to postsecondary education.”

– “Graduating to College: Three States Helping Adult Education Students Get A College Education,” Working Poor Families Project

25%

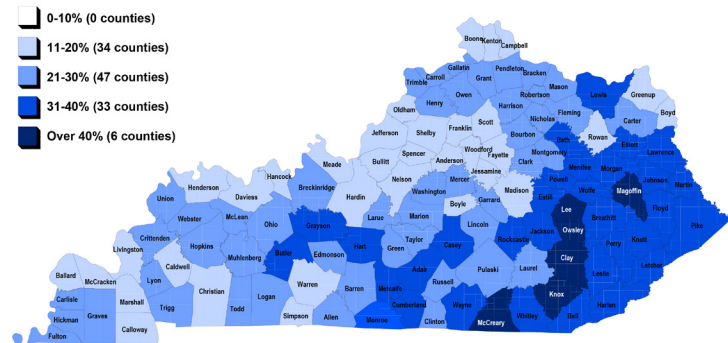
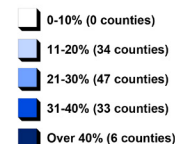
Approximately one out of four of **Kentucky’s GED® graduates enroll in Kentucky’s colleges** and universities within two academic years.

35%

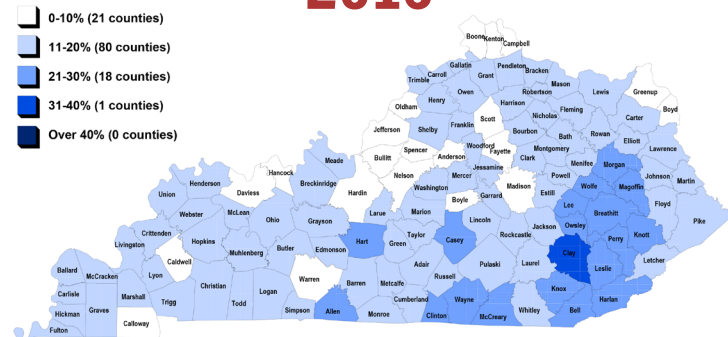
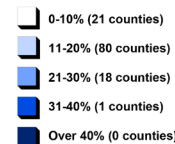
From 2000 to 2016, there was a 35% decline in the number of working-age Kentuckians without a HS/ GED® diploma.

Fourth best in the nation!

2000



2016



The two images above show a county-by-county view of the **percentage of the population without a high school credential.**

In 2000, there were 0 counties with the lowest population (0-10%) without a high school credential, for a total of 34 counties with a population of 20% or less (lightest blue).

In 2016, there were 21 counties with the lowest population (0-10%) without a high school credential, for a total of 101 counties with a population of 20% or less without (lightest blue and white).